EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1 Introduction

Military installations should provide efficient, harmonious, and visually compatible physical environments conducive to attracting and retaining skilled and motivated personnel. (Fig. 1). The Installation Design Guide is prepared to provide direction for the improvement of visual quality on a military installation. This installation design manual is a clear, comprehensive approach to preparing an Installation Design Guide.

Fig. 1 Visually Compatible Development

2 Audience

This installation design manual is written for the consulting design professional who will probably be responsible for the preparation of the Installation Design Guide, and for military personnel who will be responsible for review, adoption, and/or implementation of the Installation Design Guide. These military personnel include the commander, master planner, architect, engineer, procurement, buildings and grounds maintenance and others.

Fig. 2 Element of Visual Quality

3 The Installation Design Guide

3.1 Visual quality is dependent upon the visual appearance of the layout and physical components of the installation. (Figs. 2, 3, and 4). The Installation Design Guide serves as a comprehensive reference source providing recommendations for that appearance. Once a design guide is prepared and adopted, it is used for design decisions for all new construction, renovation, maintenance and repair projects.

Fig. 3 Manmade Visual Element

3.2 An Installation Design Guide includes a process for analysis, planning, design and implementation.

Fig. 4 Natural Visual Element

This process includes the following steps: (Fig. 5):

- **Set Goals and Objectives.**
- **Collect Base Data.**
- **Conduct Visual and Spatial Surveys.**
- **Define Visual Zones and Themes**
- **Define Visual and Spatial Assets and Liabilities**
- **Prepare Functional Analysis**
- **Prepare Visual Impressions Plan**
- **Prepare Recommendations for Projects to Improve Visual and Spatial Impacts.**

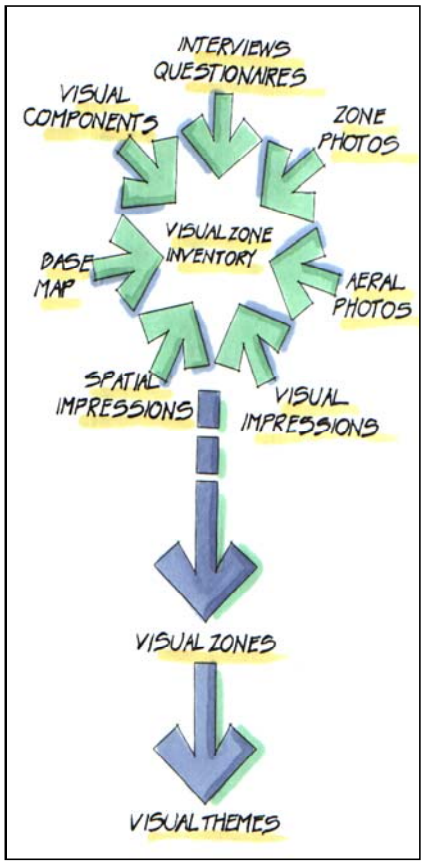

Fig. 5 Visual Inventory

4 Installation Profile

The Installation Design Guide should include a chapter of basic information about the installation including the location, history, mission, and natural and cultural resources. This information may have already been included in an installation master planning document. The installation profile should also include a compilation of text and maps that provide additional information about the installation. Installation base maps and aerial photography are of particular value.

5 Design Guide Analysis Criteria

5.1 1n order to prepare an Installation Design Guide that provides the visual requirements of the installation, goals and objectives for visual quality must be defined (Fig. 6). Goals provide a general "wish list" of end results to be achieved. Objectives provide more definitive actions for project recommendations.

Fig. 6 Visual Asset

Fig. 7 Visual Liability

5.2 The preparation of an Installation Design Guide requires a knowledge of basic design concepts. Basic visual elements and design principles are presented and defined in text and graphic form.

6 Visual Survey, Zones & Themes

6.1 A windshield survey of the installation is performed to determine the number and types of different visual zones that exist within the installation. This survey is conducted utilizing existing installation base maps, visual inspection, and photographs to record impressions of the visual and spatial impacts. This data is utilized to define visual zones.

6.2 Visual Zones are areas within the installation that include similar visual characteristics. Visual characteristics define a "look" and "feel" of an area together with the dominant features that define its image. Typical visual characteristics include unique buildings, vehicular and pedestrian corridors, natural features, and spatial relationships.

6.3 After visual zones are identified, visual themes can be defined. Visual themes are generalized groupings of visual zones that provide the same general use and visual characteristics. Visual themes include various broad scale activities that occur on an installation. These activities typically include similar design and layout characteristics.

6.4 Visual themes are established to chieve a perception of visual unification within an installation. They are used to create design consistency that will provide orientation and a "sense of place" throughout the installation.

7 Assets, Liabilities & Recommendations

7.1 After the visual zones and themes are identified, a visual inventory of each visual zone is conducted to determine visual and

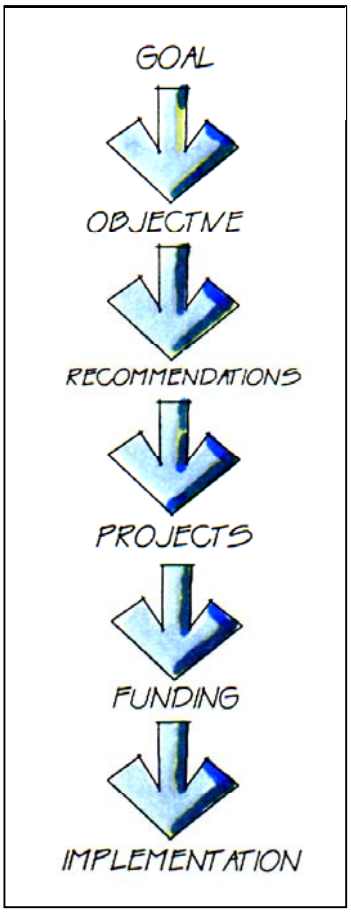

Fig. 8 Design Guide Process

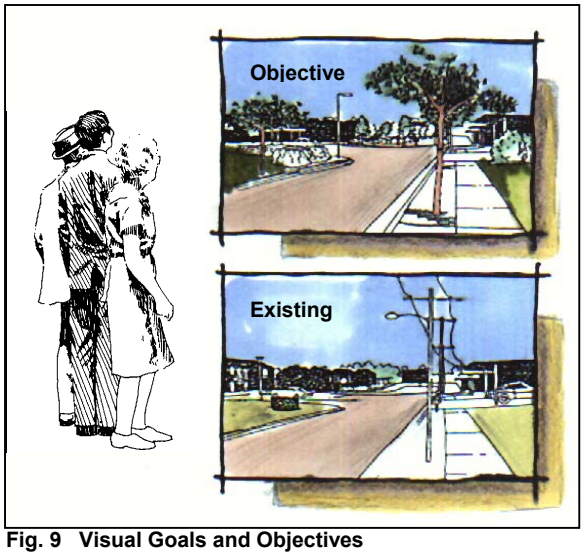

Fig. 9 Visual Goals and Objectives

spatial assets and liabilities (Figs 8 and 9). The assets and liabilities provide information about the visual quality of the installation that are used to prepare recommendations for projects.

7.2 The visual inventories of the visual zones are conducted through on-site review and analysis of the visual impacts within each zone and through the use of questionnaires and interviews of installation personnel. The visual impacts within each visual zone are recorded utilizing six design components of the installation. The use of the design components simplifies and directs the assessment of visual assets and liabilities by providing categories for review and analysis. Visual impressions of each zone are categorized according to the six physical components. These design components are:

7.2.1 Site Planning - The spatial layout and functional relationships of the natural and manmade elements of the installation are determined by the site plan. It organizes the functional relationships of the other five components of visual impact (Fig.10).

7.2.2 Structures–The image of an installation is primarily determined by the design character and siting of its buildings (Fig. 11).

7.2.3 Circulation – The location and design of roads, parking lots and pedestrian circulation routes greatly impact the visual impact of an installation.

7.2.4 Plant Material – The image of an installation is impacted by plant material. Native and naturalized plant material should be preserved, planted, and maintained (Fig. 11).

7.2.5 Site Elements – The image of the installation is greatly impacted by the design and location of site furnishings, signs, lighting, and utilities (Fig. 12).

Fig. 10 Site Planning Organizes Visual Relationships

Fig. 11 Image is Result of Character & Siting of Buildings

Fig. 12 Furnishings are Site Elements

Fig. 13 Gate Provides Security

7.2.6 Security – Concerns for security force protection impact the location and design of buildings and their surroundings (Fig. 13).

7.3 The survey and assessment of the visual zones include the preparation of a functional analysis of each zone. This analysis organizes visual impressions and assesses their functional relationships to determine the visual character and unifying motif of each zone.

7.4 The visual zone assets and liabilities assessment (Figs. 14-17), together with the functional analysis of each zone are used to prepare a visual impressions plan. This plan identifies and describes dominant visual impressons.

7.5 The assessment of each visual zone includes a list of recommendations for improvements to the visual quality. Recommendations are in the form of specific projects that are utilized to prepare an implementation plan to be included in the installation design guide. The installation design guide implementation includes a project list and project priorities. Cost estimates, and funding sources are also sometimes included.

Fig. 14 Sidewalk is Visual Liability

Fig. 15 Sidewalk is a Visual Asset

Fig. 16 Overhead Utilities are a Visual Liability

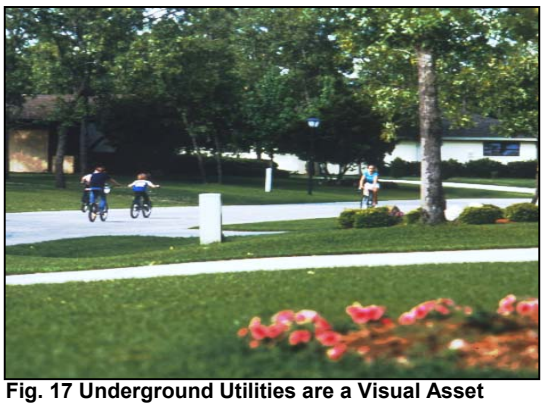

Fig. 17 Underground Utilities are a Visual Asset